THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU): (a) and (b) There is no project under consideration of the Government for expansion of infrastructure and public amenities in major cities. However, a Centrally sponsored scheme for development of infrastructure in five mega cities of Mumbai, Calcutta, Chennai, Bangalore and Hyderabad was initiated during 1993-94. The main features of the scheme as approved by the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs on 16.3.1996 are:

(i) the sharing between Central and State Governments would be in the ratio of 25:25 and the balance 50% is to be met from Institutional Finance;

(ii) the projects to be included under the scheme would be of three categories:—
(a) Basic Services projects,
(b) User charge based projects and
(c) Remunerative projects;

(iii) the funds are to be channelised through a specialised institutional/ nodal agency at the State level which would provide project related finance for urban infrastructure projects including water supply, sewerage, drainage, sanitation, city transport network, land development, slum improvement, solid waste management etc.

(c) No, Sir, No talks have been held with international agencies for getting funds for the aforesaid scheme.

(d) Does not arise.

Vacancies for SCs, STs and OBCs In Group 'D' Post in C.P.W.D.

2857. SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a good number of Group "D" posts in the reserved categories for SCs, STs and OBCs have been lying vacant in various offices of CPWD in Delhi/New Delhi, since long;

(b) if so, the details of such vacancies which are to be filled up through direct recruitment; and

(c) the action contemplated in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU): (a) yes, Sir.

(b) SC — 30
ST — 23
OBC — 206

(c) The backlog vacancies of SC and ST category are being filled up under the special recruitment drive. Vacancies in the OBC category are being filled up from among the eligible casual employees belonging to the OBC category.

Water Supply and Sewerage Projects of Rajasthan

2858. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will THE PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government have approved the water supply and sewerage projects of Rajasthan Government for five major towns of the State;

(b) if so, whether any budgetary allocation has been made for 1997-98 or the Ninth Five Year Plan, indicating the likely Central Government and the World